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COUNTER INTELLIGENCE CORPS

430th DET. U.S.F.A.

Land Upper Austria Sub Detachment
APO 174

U.S. Army

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30 November 1949
Gaunden Field Office
GFM/pb
501 4/17054

SUBJECT: ITALY - Political activity of Anti-Communist Albanians

SUMMARY OF INFORMATION:

Source 5585 received this information in early October 1949 from an Albanian refugee residing in Italy who held an important office in the Albanian Government during the fascist domination of that country. Evaluation: Source "B" (usually reliable); Subsource "P" (reliability unknown); Information "C" (truth cannot be judged).

The recent attempts of anti Communist Albanian exiles to join forces to combat the Enver HODHA regime in Albania is marked by a complete lack of cooperation among the various political factions because each leader is mainly interested in advancing his own personal aspirations.

According to Subsource, the most important of these political factions are:

1) KEMAL Group - this group has assumed the name "Political Committee of Liberation of Albania". Its headquarters are located at KALLA (2130E - 4200N) (formerly URBAN). Subsource alleged that Marshal TITO is behind the activities of this group.

The principal leaders of the "Political Committee of Liberation of Albania" are Gen. KRISTIU and Beran HAJRUTARI, former councillor to King ZOG. The organization has ramifications in several Macedonian cities where the population is predominantly Albanian. According to Subsource, KRISTIU is at present recruiting Albanians for his organized armed bands which are operating against Enver HODHA's forces.

Two (2) important supporters of this group are Gen. KALZI and Gen. KALASHI who reportedly were leaders of the anti-fascist resistance during the occupation of Albania and who rendered considerable service to British Intelligence. Subsource claims that the group enlisted Gen. KALZI's aid in their movement in order to attract the support of Great Britain. KALZI is known to Italian Intelligence as pro-Turk, anti-Italian and one of the very few polygamous Albanian Muslims. He is extremely wealthy and several of his numerous children have been educated in London, Paris and Florence. Subsource believes

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that KLEMI maintains liaison between the "Committee" and the British Intelligence Service.

Subsource asserts that Geni FRIZIU recently ordered his brother, Sali FRIZIU to Rome to contact an Albanian, Mustafa KADRI. The latter's home, located at Via Torino No. 117, care of (fnu) MORENA, telephone No. 481863, is frequently used as a meeting place for Albanians and Yugoslavs.

2) Legality ("Legalite") Group headed by King ZOG.

3) "Albanian Committee of Liberation". This was constituted in August 1949 in Paris and eventually is expected to transfer its headquarters to New York City. The leader of this group was the late Mithat FRASHERI, a descendant of a noble Albanian family. FRASHERI was Albanian Minister to Athens during the period preceding the last war. As President of the "National Front" ("FRONTI NACIONAL"), FRASHERI directed the resistance movement against the Nazi-Fascist occupation forces. After the war, he disagreed with Hoxha and was forced to seek refuge in Italy. He and a group of collaborators continued to oppose Hoxha's Government from Italy but recently the activities of this group have been greatly reduced because Hoxha's agents have penetrated the organization and have brought about mass persecutions of partisans in Albania.

One of the most important personalities in the FRASHERI Group is Abas LUPI who was a councillor to former King ZOG and the leader of the Monarchist resistance movement "LEGALITE" ("Legality") during the war.

4) National Independent Block - this "Block" is led by (fnu) VERLACI who, during the Nazi-Fascist occupation did not oppose the Italian forces and at the present time is considered very pro Italian.

Several months ago, representatives of the above mentioned groups met in Rome to lay the basis for an accord which would unite all the Albanian forces in exile into a single movement which would be named the "Sole Front".

Notwithstanding the good intention of the delegates it was not possible to reach an agreement because King ZOG's representative insisted on the appointment of Dr. Mithat FRASHERI to head the "Sole Front". According to Subsource, FRASHERI was opposed by the other movements because he was suspected of maintaining friendly relations with certain members of the present Albanian Communist Government. Subsource believes that former King ZOG sponsored the appointment of Mithat FRASHERI because if an agreement was reached, it would have subordinated the strongest political group to his (King ZOG's) policies. If an agreement could not be reached, the strength of the various

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political groups would be minimized thus leaving the way open for only King ZOG's faction to enter into any eventual agreement with America and Great Britain.

Shortly after this meeting, Lihath FRASHERI died in New York. According to Subsource, the most likely candidate for the Presidency of the "Albanian Committee of Liberation" at the present time is Abaz KUFI who enjoys considerable popularity in Albania and who is favorably disposed toward former King ZOG.

FILE CHECK:

NOIO, L/15458, Subject: Albania - Geni Haj KHYZILU - Albanian Resistance Leader, Grounds Field Office No. 2, dated 26 July 1949, furnishes information on the activities on the KHYZILU Brothers.

SOI, L/15583, Subject: ITALY - Albanian Propaganda and Espionage Activity in Italy, Grounds Field Office No. 2, dated 3 August 1949 mentions VERLACI as former Albanian President and the leader of a small anti-Communist espionage net in Italy.

SOI, L/15963, Subject: ITALY - Political Activity of Albanian Refugees in Italy, Grounds Field Office No. 2, dated 29 August 1949, confirms some of the information in basic report.

Source: 5589

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